

Establishing Additional Breeding Populations of the Critically-endangered Puaiohi

PIERC Project Leader: Bethany Woodworth, Ph.D.



Objective:

- ☆ Contribute to the recovery of the critically endangered Puaiohi, by
 - (a) conducting the first study of the species ecology and behavior in the wild, and
 - (b) developing and testing methods to establish additional breeding populations

Accomplishments:

- ☆ Documented breeding ecology and behavior of wild Puaiohi
- ☆ Tested release methodology with non-endangered congener
- ☆ Established captive flock
- ☆ Released Puaiohi experienced very high survival rates and successfully bred in first year

Significance:

- ☆ First release of a captive-bred, endangered Hawaiian passerine
- ☆ Important management tool for recovery of Puaiohi
- ☆ Model for captive-breeding and release of other endangered Hawaiian forest birds